Government to eradicate/check the rise in cases of Malaria related diseases are not proved effective;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to check Malaria cases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) No Sir. The total number of malaria deaths reported during 1991 was 421 against 353 reported in 1990.

(c) and (d) The measures for control of malaria have not given expected results due to vector developing resistance to insecticides and parasite developing resistance to drugs in certain areas, financial constraints, environmental and developmental factors.

(e) For effective control of malaria, malariogenic stratification alongwith implementation of revised approach consisting of prompt case detection and treatment and use of new bio-technologies for vector control are planned.

Strike by Medical Staff of various Hospitals

1138. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the exact periods when medical, para medical and non-medical staff of various Central Government and Union Territories, hospitals observed strike during the last three years the details thereof;

(b) whether the strike period in each case was treated on the basis of 'no work-no pay' rule; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allocation of Budget for the Health and Family Welfare

1139. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Budget allocation for Health is the lowest as compared to other countries; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and what steps are being taken for allocation of more funds for the Health and Family Welfare?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) According to the World Develoment Report, 1993, the public health expenditure in India as a percentage of the GDP is comparable to or somewhat lower than other countries in the Asian group.

(b) Under the Constitution of India Health is a State subject and over three quarters of the Health expenditure is incurred by the State Governments who assign funds based upon their sectoral priorities and overall availability of funds.

The Central Govt. supports the States in critical areas particularly, disease control. During 1992-93 the overall Plan allocation was increased by 48% and the increasing trend has been maintaned in 1993-94.

Poorest Hospitals' Capacity in India

1140. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in Hindustan Times of 19th July, 1993 stating therein that hospitals' capacity in India is poorest; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Health is a state subject under the constitution. The opening of hospitals/dispensaries is the responsibility of the respective State Governments, which take necessary decision in the matter keeping in view the needs of the population and availability of resources.

National Policy on Medical Education

1141. SHRIMATI CHANDIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national policy on the subject